Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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R 071745Z JAN 76 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5001

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SEABOARD SUMMER 1976 SCHEDULE

REF: ROME 18940 (1975)

- 1. SEABOARD VICE PRESIDENT WENDELL STEVENS TELEPHONED EMBOFF JANUARY 5 FROM NY TO DISCUSS SEABOARD'S 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULE AND TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR EMBASSY'S SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO OBTAIN PROVISIONAL APPROVAL OF SEABOARD'S 1975-76 WINTER SCHEDULE (WITH CHANGE-OF-GAUGE AT FRANKFURT ON ITS NEW YORK-FRANKFURT-MILAN ROUTE).
- 2. STEVENS STATED HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY GOI CIVAIR AUTHORITIES NEEDED ALL-CARGO SCHEDULES 90 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF IATA SEASON; SEABOARD PREFERS NOT TO BASE CHANGES IN ITS SCHEDULES ON IATA SEASONS WHICH REFLECT VARIATIONS IN PASSENGER SERVICES. EMBOFF EXPLAINED REQUIREMENTS OF US-ITALY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) OF MAY 21, 1970. STEVENS PROMISED TO HAVE DEFINITIVE SEABOARD 1976 SUMMER SCHEDULE SENT TO EMBASSY BEFORE JANUARY 30, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS NEXT WEEK.
- 3. STEVENS INFORMED EMBOFF THAT SEABOARD IS TAKING DELIVERY OF ANOTHER 747 CARGO FREIGHTER AND IS STRONGLY CONSIDERING PUTTING IT INTO SERVICE THIS SUMMER ON US-ITALY ROUTE.
- 4. COMMENT. INTRODUCTION BY SEABOARD OF 747-F ON DIRECT USLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITALY ROUTE THIS SUMMER ON DAILY BASIS WOULD, IN EMBASSY'S

OPINION, REPRESENT SUBSTANTUAL EXCESS CARGO CAPACITY IN USITALY MARKET AND WOULD -- IF EVER PERMITTED TO OPERATE BY ITALIAN AUTHORITIES -- INEVITABLY LEAD TO INTENSIFICATION OF IRREGULAR MARKETING PRACTICES (WHICH CARRIERS HAVE SHOWN SOME SIGNS OF CLEANING UP IN LAST YEAR OR SO). EVEN THREE WEEKLY 747-F FREQUENCIES NEW YORK-MILAN DIRECT AS SUBSTITUTE FOR PRESENT DAILY NEW YORK-FRANKFURT-MILAN ROUTE WILL FURTHER COMPLICATE FORTHCOMING US-ITALY GENERAL CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS. VOLPE

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